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Abstract for an Invited Paper  
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**New Views on the Galaxy from the Gaia Space Mission**

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The recent 2nd data release of the Gaia mission is revolutionizing our understanding of the Milky Way and its constituents. In this talk, I will highlight a few of the results stemming from the analysis of this truly spectacular dataset. In particular, I will focus on what we have learned about the dynamics and assembly of the Milky Way thus far.